

# Joseph Lessons

## Lessons with storytelling and engagement options

<b>Weeks 1-3</b>	<b>Lessons for October 11th, 18th and 25th</b>
<b>Learn the story.</b>	<p>The story of Joseph and his brothers. (3:49minutes) <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NQ7wLTBnF84">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NQ7wLTBnF84</a></p> <p>Joseph Forgives - Genesis (42 - 45) (3:49 minutes) <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ndETu4bzwAY">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ndETu4bzwAY</a></p> <p>Full Story of Joseph (26 minutes) <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Jy1DpebexTQ">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Jy1DpebexTQ</a></p> <p>Written story is below so that you may print and read it to your child.</p>
<b>Purpose of this unit.</b>	<p><b>The Story of Joseph</b> <b>Big Idea</b> <b>God is with us in every step of our lives.</b></p> <p>Memory Verse: Genesis 41:39 The Pharaoh said to Joseph, "Since God has made all this known to you, there is no one as wise as you."</p> <p>Lesson Objectives:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Children will learn the events or stepping-stones that shaped Joseph's life.</li><li>• Children will learn that God was with Joseph in all the events of his life.</li><li>• Children will learn that God is with them in all the events of their lives.</li><li>• Children will learn that we are to let God guide us.</li></ul>
<b>Activity 1</b>  <b>Child's own timeline.</b>	<p><b>Create a timeline of your own life.</b> Using some printer paper, make a scroll and decorate it. Tape a few pieces of paper together to make it longer if you have many events to add to your timeline / scroll. <b>What were the main events of your life so far? Add them to your timeline and represent each event with a photo or a drawing.</b></p>

	<p><b>Stepping Stones in children’s lives:</b></p> <p><b>Parents: Discussion you can have during the project.</b>  What are some of the important events that have occurred in their lives? You may have to tell them about events they are too young to remember. (ie. walking, first word)  Some things children may mention:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· Birthday or day of birth</li> <li>· Being named</li> <li>· Baptism</li> <li>· Being given responsibilities at home/school</li> <li>· Learning a new skill (riding a bike, swinging etc.)</li> <li>· Starting school and so forth</li> </ul> <p><b>Remind children that God promises to be us with every step we take in life.</b>  <b>We can be faithful to God in each step we take by looking to Jesus example (WWJD) and praying for guidance/help so we can become the person God wants us to be.</b></p>
<p><b>Activity 2</b></p> <p><b>Option for Grades 2 - 5 in place of or in addition to stepping stones.</b></p>	<p><b>Stepping Stones or timeline of events in Joseph’s Life in the form of a deck of cards:</b>  <b>Make a deck of cards from the following events in Joseph’s life.</b>  They can be used later in a game.  Put the cards in the order of events in Joseph’s life.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1.Shepherd: Joseph was a shepherd like his brothers.</li> <li>2.Coat of Many Colors: Joseph received a very colorful coat which made his brothers mad.</li> <li>3.Dreams: Joseph had dreams of his family bowing down to him.</li> <li>4.Slavery: Joseph was sold to a merchant.</li> <li>5.Egypt: Joseph was sold to an Egyptian.</li> <li>6.Servant: Joseph worked hard and pleased his master.</li> <li>7.Jail: Joseph was thrown into jail because the Egyptian’s wife lied.</li> <li>8.Dream Reader: Joseph is called to interpret Pharaoh’s dreams.</li> <li>9.Ruler of Egypt: Joseph is made 2nd in charge of all of Egypt and saves the land from famine.</li> <li>10.Brother’s Visit: Joseph is able to forgive his brothers and save his family from starving.</li> </ol>

### Activity 3

#### Any age.

Younger children may need help from an adult.



### Art Workshop

#### Summary of Lesson Activities:

Making stepping stones using colored stones that depict the events that shaped Joseph's life.

#### Supplies List:

- Set of Joseph's stepping-stones cards (see 10 steps above to make your own set)

#### Kit of art supplies provided

Plasticine, heart shaped button, beads x 2 sets

Use the provided plasticine to create a pancake-like circle and place the beads around the outside. The heart is placed in the centre of the circle.

#### Main Content and Reflection:

**Read the story of Joseph below and / or watch the videos using the links provided above.**

Discuss: How Joseph had many different Stepping Stones in his life (choices, options, help) and read each card in order.

Project: "Today we are going to make our own Stepping-Stone with many colors, like Joseph's Coat. Each color represents something:

**Blue: Peace (Joseph had a PEACEFUL attitude that attracted some to him, and made others jealous)**

**Green: Faith (Joseph never lost FAITH in God, even though his brothers sold him into slavery)**

**Red: Love (Joseph LOVED to serve God, and in serving God Joseph was able to love his brothers)**

**Yellow: Courage (Joseph was successful because his faith gave him COURAGE say what God wanted)**

**The stones are placed in a circle. A circle is never ending, like God's Love.**

Arrange glass beads and decorations on stepping-stones. Remind the children what each color represents.

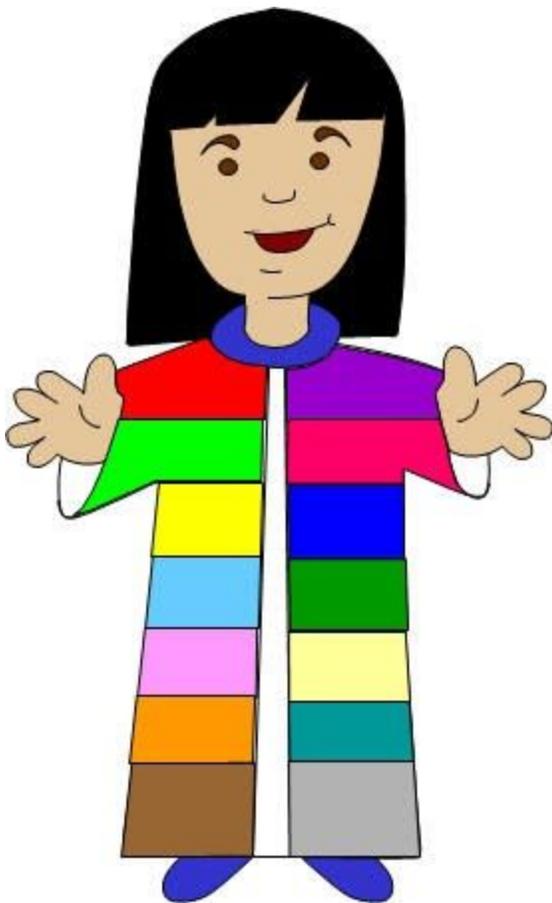
<p><b>Topics of interest for the older children.</b></p>	<p>Topics of historical interest</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Famines in the Middle East during the time of Joseph</li> <li>- Storage of grain in ancient times</li> <li>- Grain distributions during ancient times</li> <li>- Hierarchy or structure of leadership in Joseph's time <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- For example: What type of power or leadership role did the pharaohs have?</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<p><b>Message</b></p>	<p><b>The message:</b></p> <p>Preschool thru Grade 1: <b>God made families. He made each of us special.</b></p> <p>Grades 2 and 3: <b>God made families so we could help find each other's talents. What talent has God given you?</b></p> <p>Remind children that <b>God promises to be us with every step we take in life.</b></p> <p><b>We can be faithful to God in each step we take by looking to Jesus example (WWJD) and praying for guidance/help so we can become the person God wants us to be.</b></p>
	<p><b>Closing:</b></p> <p><i>Prayer: Heavenly Father, you are so loving and kind. Help us to remember You are with us through the different stepping-stones of our life, even when life is hard You become our stones to guide us. You Rock! In Jesus name we pray. Amen.</i></p>

# The Story of Joseph

*by Leanne Guenther*

This is the story about a young man named Joseph. His father's name is Jacob, and they lived in Canaan from where his grandfather was from.

Joseph was seventeen (old enough to drive a car these days), and he had eleven brothers; and only had one brother younger than him. Can you imagine having eleven brothers to play with, or fight with?



Because Joseph was one of the youngest sons, his father spent more time with him, and he became very special to him. So Jacob had a special robe made for Joseph. (They didn't have jackets back then, so this was a very special jacket). It was very beautiful and had every color you could imagine in it.

All of Joseph's older brothers saw this and they got very jealous. The word jealous means that Joseph's brothers dislike him because they thought his father liked him more, and because he got the special coat. They got so jealous they couldn't even say

a kind word to him.

One day Joseph had a dream, and he went to go tell his brothers. He said, "Guess what? Last night I had a strange dream. We were tying up bunches of grain out in the field when suddenly my bunch stood up, while all of yours gathered around and bowed to me." The brothers looked at each other in disgust, but Joseph continued. "Then I had another dream that the sun, moon, and eleven stars bowed down to me."

"Who do you think you are?" The brothers said. "Do you think that you are better than all of us? Do you think that we would ever bow down to you?" This made the brothers dislike Joseph even more.

When he told his father about his dreams he said, "Those are strange dreams." But he thought carefully about what Joseph had told him.

A few days later Joseph's father asked him to check on his brothers. They were in the fields quite a distance away. So Joseph went to find them.

When the brothers saw Joseph in the distance, they made a plan to kill him. But when Reuben, Joseph's oldest brother heard this he said, "Let's not kill him, just throw him in a well out here in the field." He said this because he was secretly planning to come back and rescue Joseph when the other brothers had left.

So when Joseph came to them, they took off his beautiful robe and they threw him in an empty well. A little while later a group of people came by that were wanting to sell some things in Egypt. One of the brothers spoke up, "Why don't we sell him to these people, this way we never have to see him again, and we don't have to kill him."

The other brothers liked this idea, so they sold him to the people who were going to Egypt.

Unfortunately Reuben had been working and hadn't seen what happened. When he returned to the well he noticed that Joseph was gone. He had been sold to an important man named Potiphar, an assistant to the Pharaoh of Egypt.

The rest of the brothers took Joseph's beautiful robe and dipped it in animal blood and took it back to their father. When the father saw this he cried, "Some animal has killed my son." And he cried for many days, so much that nobody could comfort him.

Now Joseph had started out as a slave, but the Lord was with Joseph and He helped him do everything right. So Potiphar made him his helper, and put him in charge of everything that he owned.

The problem came when Potiphar's wife lied about Joseph to her husband, so Potiphar had Joseph put into jail.

The Lord was still with Joseph in jail, and the warden put Joseph in charge of all the prisoners. He never worried because the Lord was with Joseph and helped him do everything right.

After Joseph had been in jail for some time a cupbearer and baker to Pharaoh had been sent there. One night each of them had a dream. They told their dreams to Joseph and

he told the cupbearer that he would soon be let out of jail. "Please tell Pharaoh about me, and ask him to get me out of here." Joseph said.

When the cupbearer was freed he forgot about what Joseph did. So Joseph stayed in jail for two more years. Until one day the Pharaoh had a dream, and nobody could explain it to him. The cupbearer then remembered what Joseph had done for him, and Joseph was brought to Pharaoh.

"Can you understand dreams?" Pharaoh asked. "I can't, but God helps me." Joseph replied. After Pharaoh had told him his dream Joseph explained, "God is warning you. There will be seven years when nothing will grow and there won't be any food for anyone."

"What can I do?" Pharaoh asked. "God has shown you what to do. There will be seven years before the bad years that will be very good. So good that there will be extra food for everyone. So you should save a little bit of each year's harvest, that way you will have enough to get you through the bad years." Joseph said.

Pharaoh believed all that Joseph told him, and put him in charge of all the land of Egypt.

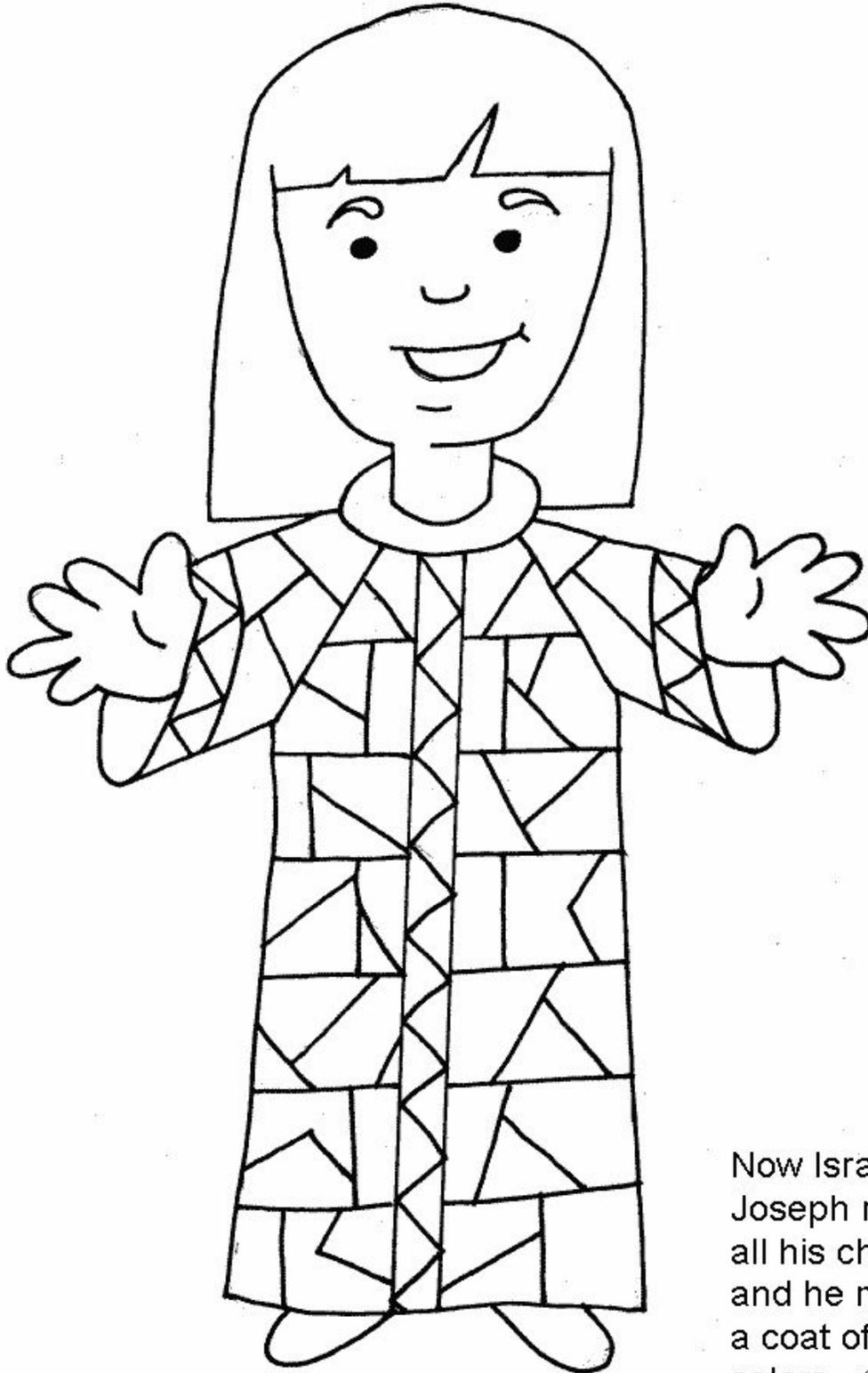
People came from all countries to buy grain from Joseph, because the whole world was in need of food. Some of those people were Joseph's brothers. When his brothers came, Joseph recognized them, but they did not know who he was. (It had been over 10 years since they had seen him).

The brothers all bowed to him because he was an important person. Just as he dreamed they would at the beginning.

After a few meetings with his brothers he could not keep it in any longer and Joseph said to his brothers, "I am Joseph! Is my father alive?" But his brothers couldn't answer him because they were afraid. Then Joseph said, "Come here. I am your brother, the one you sold! Do not worry, and do not be angry at yourselves for selling me, because God has put me here to save people from starving."

So his father, his brothers, and their families came to live in Egypt with Joseph, and they had all the food they needed.

Colour Joseph's "coat of many colours."



Now Israel loved Joseph more than all his children and he made him a coat of many colors. *from Genesis 37:3*

## OR...

DLTK's Bible Crafts for Kids

This resource is from: <https://www.dltk-kids.com/bible/crafts/mpaperjoseph.htm>

Joseph and His Coat Paper Craft

***Contributed by Leanne Guenther***

**Complete this paper craft to see the passage from Genesis 37:3 (King James version). It is a good craft for children who can read, but can be completed by younger kids with help from an adult.**

Materials:

- **printer paper, scissors, glue, something to color with**

Instructions:

- **Print out the template of choice.**
- **Color the pieces (as appropriate) and cut them out.**
- **Using the words as clues, glue the colorful patches onto the coat. When completed, the passage from Genesis 37:3 will be shown:**

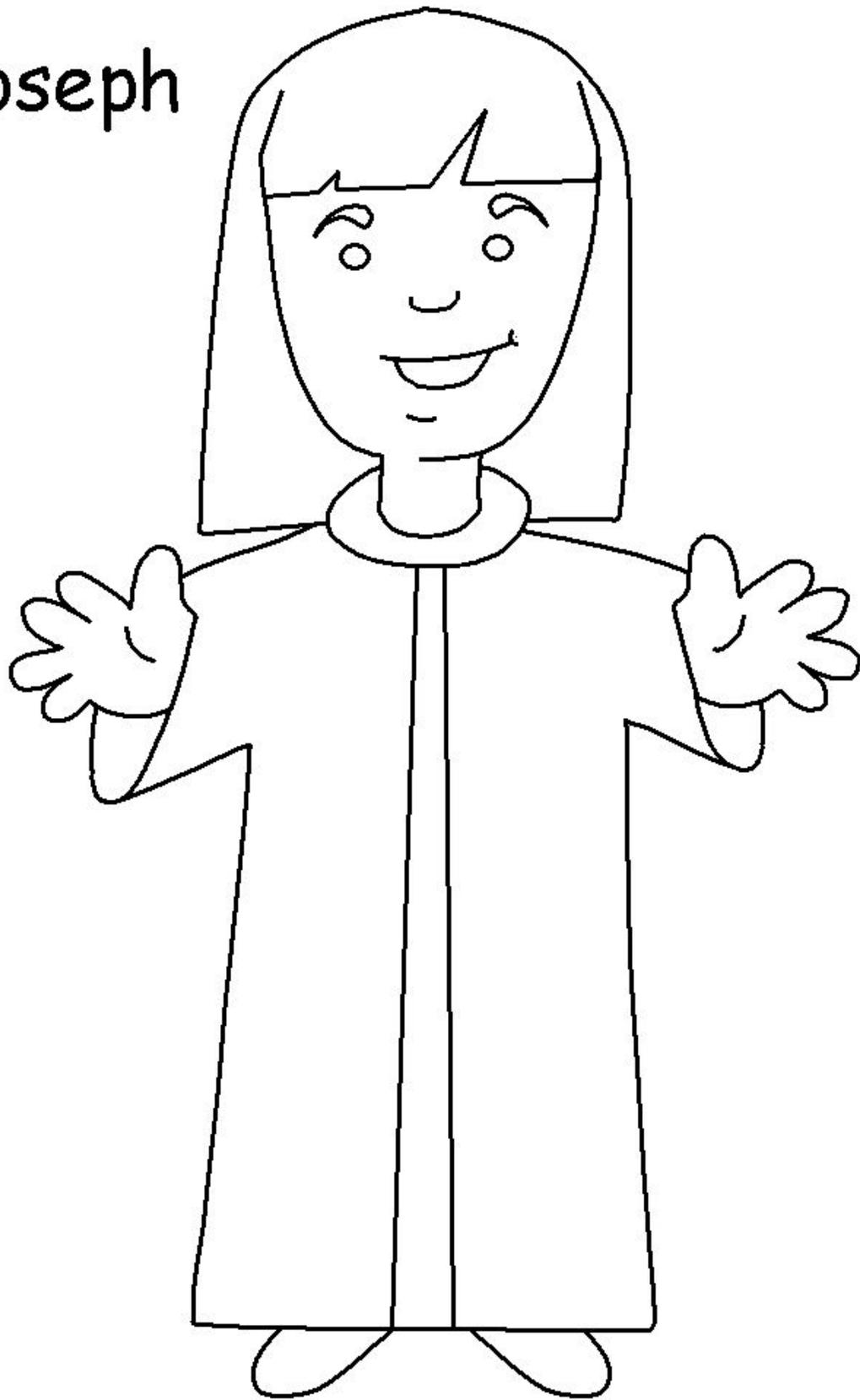
***"Now Israel loved Joseph more than all his children, because he was the son of his old age. Also he made him a tunic of many colors."***

Templates:

Template 1 - Joseph

Template 2 - Coat patches

Joseph



Now Israel

a tunic of

Directions: Color each piece a different color. Cut out the colorful patches and glue them onto Joseph's coat. When you are done, you will see the words to Genesis 37:3

all his

the son

of his

more than

Also he

made him

children,

because

old age.

he was

many colors

loved Joseph

